Application Serial No. 09/865,878 Docket No. 40655.1700 Response/Amendment dated May 12, 2003 Reply to Office Action mailed on May 4, 2004

## In the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A computer implemented service for updating a merchant customer account database over a network, comprising:

a first database of information having a plurality of merchant customer records;

a remote merchant customer database having a first plurality of customer account records;

a merchant process server for appending a merchant processing request to at least one of said first plurality of customer accounts to produce a merchant processing request data file; and

a process server for receiving said first database of information and said merchant processing request data file, said process server configured to compare said first database of information and said merchant processing request data file to produce a first comparison data file, said first comparison data file comprising a first record including a compilation of said merchant processing requests accepted for processing by said process server, said first comparison data file further comprising a second record including a compilation of said merchant processing requests rejected for processing by said process server, said process server further configured to update said first database of information in accordance with said merchant processing request data file.

- 2. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 1 wherein, said service further comprises a second database of information having a second plurality of customer transaction accounts records.
- 3. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 2 wherein, said process server is configured to receive said second database of information, said process server configured to compare said first database of information and said second database of information

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to produce a second comparison data file, said second comparison file comprising a plurality of

updated customer transaction account records, said process server further configured to update

said first database of information in accordance with said second database of information.

4. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 3, wherein, said

process server is further configured to append a provider processing instruction to at least one of

said plurality of updated customer transaction account records to produce a provider processing

request data file.

5. (Original) A computer implemented service, according to claim 4, wherein said

process server is configured to provide an update summary file, said update summary comprising

at least one of said first comparison data file and said provider processing request data file.

6. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 5, wherein said

update summary report is provided to said merchant process server periodically.

7. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 5 wherein, said

merchant process server is configured to retrieve said update summary file.

8. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 7 wherein, said

merchant server is further configured to update said remote merchant customer database in

accordance with said update summary file.

9. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 1 wherein, said at

least one of said first plurality of customer transaction account records is pre-authorized.

10. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 1 wherein, said at

least one of said first plurality of distinct customer transaction account records is provided a

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merchant processing request indicating that said at least one of said first plurality of customer

transaction account records is to be removed from at least one of said plurality of merchant

customer records.

11. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 1, wherein said at

least one of said first plurality of customer transaction account records is provided a merchant

processing request indicating that said at least one of said first plurality of distinct customer

transaction card records requires alteration by said process server.

12. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 1, wherein said

remote merchant customer database is configured to be updated manually.

13. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 7, wherein said

merchant server is configured to update said remote merchant customer database in accordance

with said provider processing instruction.

14. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 1, wherein said

rejected merchant process request is verified.

15. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 13, wherein said

merchant process server appends said verified rejected merchant process request to said

merchant process request data file.

16. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 13, wherein said

merchant process request data file includes said verified rejected merchant process request.

17. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 1, wherein said

process server is configured to tally the number of rejected merchant processing request.

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18. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 17, wherein said

process server comprises a predetermined rejection threshold.

19. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 18, wherein said

process server compares the rejection threshold to said tally of the number of rejected merchant

process request, said process server further configured reject said merchant process request data

file when the rejection threshold is reached.

20. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 5, wherein said

process server is configured to tally said accepted merchant processing request, in accordance

with a merchant process request grouping.

21. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 20, wherein said

update summary file comprises said tally said accepted merchant processing request.

22. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 1, wherein at

least one of said first plurality of customer transaction accounts is outdated, said process server

being configured to add said outdated at least one of said first plurality of customer transaction

account records to said first database of information, said outdated one of said first plurality of

customer transaction account records remaining permanently fixed.

23. (Original) A computer implemented service for updating a merchant customer

transaction account database over a network, comprising:

a first database of information having a plurality of merchant customer

records wherein each of said merchant customer records further comprises a first plurality

of customer transaction account records;

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a second database of information having a second plurality of customer transaction account records;

a first remote merchant customer database stored on a remote merchant computer having a merchant database processor, said first remote merchant customer database having a third plurality of customer transaction account records, said first remote merchant customer database configured to provide at least one of said third plurality of customer transaction account records in a registry file, said at least one of said third plurality of customer transaction account records being provided a merchant transaction code; and

a process server for receiving said registry file, comparing said at least one of said third plurality of customer transaction account records in said registry file to at least one of said first plurality of customer transaction account records comprising said plurality of merchant customer records and providing a maintenance file, wherein said comparison is done according to a predetermined order of steps corresponding to said merchant transaction code, said maintenance file comprising a fourth plurality of customer transaction account records, at least one of said fourth plurality of customer transaction account records being provided a return transaction code, said maintenance file being provided to said merchant database processor, said merchant database processor updating at least one of said third plurality of customer transaction account records on said first remote merchant customer database, wherein said updated customer transaction account record corresponds to said customer transaction account record having said return transaction code.

24. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 23, wherein said at least one of said third plurality of customer transaction account records is pre-authorized prior to storing said at least one of said third plurality of customer transaction account records on said first remote merchant customer database.

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25. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 24, wherein said

at least one of said third plurality of customer transaction account records is provided a

merchant transaction code indicating that said at least one of said third plurality of customer

transaction account records is enrolled in said service for updating a merchant customer

transaction account database over a network.

26. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 25, wherein said

registry file includes a plurality of said enrolled ones of said third plurality of customer

transaction account records.

27. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 26, wherein said

registry file includes a plurality of customer transaction account records of customers paying

charges with at least one of said customer transaction account records, said registry file

comprising an initial registry file.

28. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 27, wherein said

first plurality of customer transaction accounts includes said initial registry file.

29. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 25, wherein said

at least one of said third plurality of customer transaction account records is provided a

merchant transaction code indicating that said at least one of said third plurality of customer

transaction account records is removed from said service for updating a merchant customer

transaction account database over a network.

30. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 25, wherein said

at least one of said third plurality of customer transaction account records is provided a

merchant transaction code indicating that said at least one of said third plurality of customer

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transaction account records requires alteration by said service for updating a merchant customer

transaction account database over a network.

31. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 23, wherein said

registry file is provided to said process server periodically.

32. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 23, wherein said

maintenance file is provided to said merchant database processor manually for updating at least

one of said third plurality of customer transaction account records on said first remote merchant

customer database.

33. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 23, wherein said

updating of said at least on of said third plurality of customer transaction account records on

said first remote merchant customer database according to a predetermined order of steps

corresponding to said return transaction code.

34. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 23, wherein said

maintenance file further comprises a rejected records file, said rejected records file comprising

those of said those of said third plurality of customer transaction account records rejected by

said process server.

35. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 34, wherein said

those of said third plurality of customer transaction account records rejected by said process

server are verified and re-entered in said registry file, wherein said registry file comprising said

verified rejected records is resubmitted to said process server.

36. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim, wherein said

process server comprises a predetermined rejection threshold, said rejection threshold being set

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such that where the rejection threshold is reached, said registry file is rejected by said server, said

rejected threshold being reached when a predetermined number of said third plurality of

customer transaction account records is rejected by said process server.

37. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 23 wherein said

maintenance file is provided to said merchant database processor periodically.

38. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 23 including a

plurality of maintenance files wherein said maintenance files are ordered such that each file may

be processed in the order in which it was provided to the merchant database processor.

39. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 36, wherein said

process server provides a summary report to said merchant database processor, said summary

report comprising information corresponding to at least one of the number of said third plurality

of customer transaction account records processed by said process server and the number of said

third plurality of customer transaction account records rejected by said process server.

(Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 23 wherein said 40.

process server compares said second plurality of customer credit records to said first plurality of

customer transaction account records to provide a server initiated maintenance file comprising a

fifth plurality of customer transaction account records, said fifth plurality of customer

transaction account records being provided said return transaction code, said maintenance file

further comprising said fifth plurality of customer transaction account records.41. A

implemented service according to claim 26, wherein said at least one of said a plurality of said

enrolled ones of said third plurality of customer transaction account records is outdated, said

outdated enrolled one of said third plurality of customer transaction account records is provided

to said first plurality of customer transaction account records, said outdated enrolled one of said

third plurality of customer transaction account records remaining permanently fixed.

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41. (Original) A computer implemented service according to claim 26, wherein said at least one of said a plurality of said enrolled ones of said third plurality of customer transaction account records is outdated, said outdated enrolled one of said third plurality of customer transaction account records is provided to said first plurality of customer transaction account records, said outdated enrolled one of said third plurality of customer transaction account records remaining permanently fixed.

Claims 42-43 (Cancelled)